

REMARKS:

- 1) The original specification was essentially a literal translation of a corresponding foreign text. A few editorial amendments have now been made in the specification. Also, it has been clarified, that the inverted U-shaped member remains on a single plane in both the folded state and the opened state without bending out of this plane, but that lower ends of the inverted U-shaped member come closer together in the folded state. This feature of the invention is clearly supported in the original drawings (see e.g. Figs. 3 to 11) and also the overall context of the written description (see e.g. page 13 line 7 to page 14 line 19). Thus, clarifying the text in this regard does not introduce any new matter. Please enter the amendment in the specification.
  
- 2) The original claims were essentially a literal translation of corresponding foreign claims. The claims have now been amended in an editorial manner to streamline and achieve better consistency of the claim terminology. Also, independent claims 1 and 22 have each been amended to incorporate features based on and supported in original claim 5, and the abovementioned features of the original disclosure that have now been clarified in the specification. Namely, claims 1 and 22 now expressly recite that the inverted U-shaped member remains on a single plane in both the opened state and the folded state without being bent out of this plane, upper ends of two upwardly extending bars of the inverted U-shaped member remain the same distance apart in both states, and lower ends of the two upwardly extending bars

are arranged and adapted to be closer together in the folded state and farther apart in the opened state. As pointed out above, these features are supported in the original drawings and written description, and do not introduce any new matter. The dependent claims have been amended wherever necessary for proper conformance with the amended independent claims. Also, the dependency of some claims has been changed where necessary. Claims 7 and 9 have been canceled. Entry and consideration of the claim amendments are respectfully requested.

- 3) Referring to section 3 on page 2 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1 to 26 as indefinite under 35 USC §112(2) has been taken into account in the present amendment.

In claim 1, the actual intended configuration and arrangement of the U-shaped member has now been more clearly and accurately defined. The U-shaped member remains on a single plane, while upper ends of upwardly extending bars thereof remain the same distance apart, and lower ends of the upwardly extending bars thereof are closer together in the folded state and farther apart from one another in the opened state.

Claim 7 has been canceled.

In view of the present amendment, please withdraw the rejection of claims 1 to 26 under 35 USC §112 second paragraph.

- 4) Referring to section 8 on page 4 of the Office Action, the indication of allowable subject matter in original claims 4 to 8 and 10 to 21 is appreciated. Independent claims 1 and 22 have each been amended to recite allowable subject matter from

original claim 5, with further clarification. Particularly, according to amended claims 1 and 22, the inverted U-shaped member remains on a single plane in both the opened state and the folded state, while upper ends of two upwardly extending bars of the U-shaped member remain the same distance apart and lower ends of the upwardly extending bars are arranged and adapted to be closer together in the folded state and farther apart from one another in the opened state. This is a clarified definition of the true inventive subject matter from original claim 5. Accordingly, independent claims 1 and 22, as well as the dependent claims 2 to 6, 8, 10 to 21 and 23 to 26, should now be allowable.

- 5) Referring to section 5 on page 3 of the Office Action, the rejection of claims 1 to 3, 9 and 22 to 25 as anticipated by US Patent 3,918,734 (Firth et al.) is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1 and 22 have each been amended to incorporate allowable subject matter from original non-rejected claim 5, as discussed above. Already for this reason, the rejection cannot be maintained.

In the handle arrangement of the baby stroller according to Firth et al., the lower ends of two upwardly extending bars are NOT arranged and adapted to be closer together in the folded state and farther apart from one another in the opened state. To the contrary, in the handle arrangement according to Firth et al., the lower ends of the upright bars (50, 52) always stay the same distance apart from one another, and merely pivot about pivot pins (54, 62) secured to bar members (38, 40) (see col. 3

lines 24 to 44, col. 4 lines 32 to 57, and Figs. 1 to 5, 10 and 11). The lower ends of the upwardly extending bars remain the same distance apart in both the opened state and the folded state.

Furthermore, in comparison to present claim 1, the stroller of Firth et al. is not foldable from a unfolded opened state to a folded state whereby the four wheels thereof approach each other back and forth and from side to side. Instead, in the stroller according to Firth et al., the wheels only approach each other side-to-side, but actually move farther apart from one another in the back-and-forth direction when transitioning from the opened state to the folded state, because of the connection of the wheels through the X-like frame structure of rigid frame bars (2, 4) pivotally connected at a pivot pin (6).

Still further, contrary to present claim 22, the baby stroller according to Firth et al. does not include an inverted U-shaped member separate from a push bar for moving the baby carriage. Rather, the U-shaped member includes vertical members (50, 52) and a crosswise middle bar or handle (122) to form the U-shaped member, which serves as the handle bar or push bar.

The dependent claims are patentably distinguishable over the prior art already due to their dependence.

For the above reasons, please withdraw the anticipation rejection applying Firth et al.

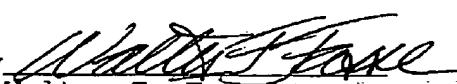
- 6) Referring to section 7 on pages 3 to 4 of the Office Action, the rejection of claim 26 as obvious over Firth et al. is respectfully traversed. Claim 26 depends from claim 22, which

has been discussed above in comparison to Firth et al. Already due to its dependence, claim 26 is patentably distinguishable over the reference. There would have been no suggestion and no enabling disclosure toward modifying the U-shaped member such that the lower ends of the upwardly extending bars thereof are closer together in the folded state than in the opened state, because they are already in the closest possible position in the opened state. Also, there would have been no suggestion to modify the arrangement of Firth et al. to provide an inverted U-shaped member having such features as a part of a shade roof. Please withdraw the obviousness rejection applying Firth et al.

- 7) The additional prior art made of record requires no particular comments because it has not been applied against the claims.
- 8) Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, including all present claims 1 to 6, 8 and 10 to 26, are respectfully requested.

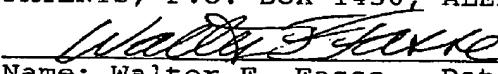
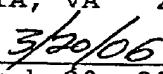
Respectfully submitted,  
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Transmittal Cover Sheet

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